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Prior to XM radio being available, I rarely listened to commercial 'network' radio. Why? Mainly, because of the mindless drivel (sometimes known as 'talk' radio) and the same continuous music that is played over and over again. The local radio 'talk shows' in our area are, for the most part, vulgar, obnoxious, an insult to my intelligence and difficult to endure. To decide which is worse, programming or commercials is definitely a challenge. Everything is free, but I choose not to listen.

XM radio, with 120 channels of pure digital signal, provides a variety of whatever genre I care to listen to with 99% no advertising. I can drive from the East Coast to the West Coast and listen to the same channel. With XM I have the ability to listen to 'what' I want to 'when' I want to. In addition, it's better programming as well. This doesn't come free. I've paid not only for the XM radios in my vehicles, but also a monthly fee for each radio.

Please reject NAB's petition 04-160. Just as with network television, the NAB needs to do some 'house-cleaning' of it's own. This is evidenced both by the creation and the obvious success of satellite radio as an 'alternate'. The United States, as well as our entire society, is founded on competition in the marketplace in addition to implementation of new technologies. Every citizen should have the right to listen to programming of their own choice, not something dictated by the NAB.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.